

#41 Amendment next  
1/28/00  
and G  
PATENT  
Dec.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Sugiyama, et al.  
Serial No.: 08/960,431  
Filed: October 10, 1997  
FOR: FLATTENING METHOD AND  
FLATTENING APPARATUS  
OF A SEMICONDUCTOR  
DEVICE



Docket No.: 30598.0004  
Art Unit: 3723  
Examiner: Nguyen, G.

RECEIVED  
JAN 12 2000  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

**AMENDMENT**

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 12, 1999, the period of response for which is hereby extended by two-months to Monday, December 13, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A flattening method of a semiconductor device by a chemical-mechanical polishing process comprising,

B  
preparing a synthetic resin polishing cloth in a circular form and a tool for forming a surface layer of the synthetic resin polishing cloth to have fluff thereon in a polishing process, said tool having [an annular shape with] a diameter less than a radial length of the polishing cloth, and

rotating the polishing cloth along a central axis thereof and pressing the tool on a radial portion of the polishing cloth, said tool being moved along the polishing cloth to thereby form the fluff on the polishing cloth so that the polishing cloth can evenly and continuously polish the semiconductor device.

Gau 3723

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date: December 13, 1999

By Sugiyama



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

|               |  |                 |            |
|---------------|--|-----------------|------------|
| Applicant(s): | Sugiyama, et al  | Docket No.:     | 30598.0004 |
| Serial No.:   | 08/960,431   | Group Art Unit: | 3723       |
| Filing Date:  | October 10, 1997   | Examiner:       | Nguyen, G. |
| TITLE:        | FLATTENING METHOD AND FLATTENING APPARATUS OF A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE |                 |            |

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JAN 12 2000

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir/Madam:

Attached herewith is a Response to the Office Action mailed on July 12, 1999 in the above-identified application.

FEE CALCULATION, CLAIMS AS AMENDED:

|   | Claims<br>remaining<br>after<br>amendment |       | Highest<br>number<br>previously<br>paid for |   | Present<br>Extra |              | Additional<br>Fee |
|---|---|-------|---|---|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Total Effective Claims  | 21  | minus | 21  | = | 0                | x \$ 18.00 = | 0.00              |
| Independent Claims  | 4   | minus | 4   | = | 0                | x \$ 78.00 = | 0.00              |
| If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (per application) |   |       |   |   | \$260.00 +       |              | N/A               |

01/10/2000 YGIZAW 00000068 192014 08960431

Subtotal: 0.00

01 FC:116 380.00 CH

**Fee Calculation: Request for Extension of Time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)**

|       |  |                         |
|-------|--|-------------------------|
| [ ]   | Response filed within <b>first</b> month after due date - add  | \$ 110.00               |
| [ X ] | Response filed within <b>second</b> month after due date - add | \$ 380.00               |
| [ ]   | Response filed within <b>third</b> month after due date - add  | \$ 870.00               |
| [ ]   | Response filed within <b>fourth</b> month after due date - add | \$1360.00               |
| [ ]   | Response filed within <b>fifth</b> month after due date - add  | \$1850.00               |
|       |  | <b>TOTAL:</b> \$ 380.00 |

If one of the "small entity" boxes above is checked, enter half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )  
of the second subtotal and **subtract**. N/A

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98 N/A

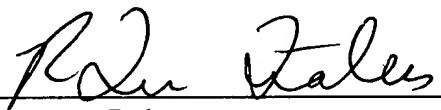
**TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE ENCLOSED:** \$ 380.00

[ X ] Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2814 in the amount of \$ 380.00.  
**A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.**

[ ] Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.

**This statement does NOT authorize charge of the issue fee.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any **deficiency** in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.18 (**deficiency only**) now or hereafter relative to this Application and the resulting Official document under 37 C.F.R. §1.20, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-2814 for **which purpose** a **duplicate copy of this sheet is attached**.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
R. Lee Fraley  
Reg. No. 42,550

Dated 12/13/99

**SNELL & WILMER, L.L.P.**  
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(602) 382-6250